

## **HARDWARE/SOFTWARE CAPABILITY RATING SYSTEM**

### **ABSTRACT**

Techniques and tools for rating computer products are described. For example, 5 software ratings are based on subjective evaluations to determine computer system requirements for a positive user experience, while a computer running a capability tool rates a computer system's (or hardware component's) ability to run software. A capability rating for hardware is determined by comparing a set of features and performance results with capability rating requirements. In another aspect, a capability 10 rating is communicated using a standardized presentation. In another aspect, capability rating level requirements are proposed (e.g., by a ratings board) and then finalized. A capability rating level is determined for computer products (e.g., by a testing organization) based on the finalized requirements and analysis of the products (e.g., by a computer running a capability tool). In another aspect, a software system 15 comprises an inventory module, a performance testing module, and an inventory and performance evaluator module.